

Torrance Herald

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE C. P. ROBERTS - - - - - Publisher and Owner Subscription Rates In Advance One Year.....\$2.00 Single Copies..... 5c

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAD

The sickness which comes to old age after a strenuous career forced the wonderful Sarah Bernhardt to fight for her life. Her illness was the result of a nervous breakdown caused by overwork at her profession. It is the illness that comes to one whose whole soul and being is wrapped up in the details of the work which they love, and when a discordant note entered into the development of her plans the strain proved too much, and she placed herself under the care of her physician.

But all the time she was confined to her bed she fought the fight of a clean-souled, clean-bodied old woman, who wanted to live in order that the work she began might be completed. She is, at this time, convalescent, and within a short time she will again be the directing mind in the play she was fostering.

Madame Bernhardt is now past seventy-nine years of age, and this fact alone will go far to prove that there is nothing in the life of the stage that demands the use of anything that will tend to degenerate those who follow the profession. There is nothing in the life of the "Immortal Sarah" which will not prove to be a good example for those whose ambitions lay in the direction of success in an honorable career.

But what about our own stage and screen? During the past few years the newspapers have been filled with tales of the moral failure and physical breakdown of several prominent film actors and actresses, and that of Wallace Reid stands out in bold relief. And as a practical moral lesson to the youth of the land, Mr. Reid's case is one to be studied.

Here was a young man, not much more than thirty years of age, and whose active life on the stage and before the camera covered a trifle more than a decade, who permitted his so-called friends to dictate his moral policy. His standing in his profession was of the highest, and practically unimpeachable. He was strong physically and mentally. He was loved by the fans of the films as is not the privilege of many to be loved. His future was assured in every way. And yet the slimy, creeping thing, whose tenacles reach in all directions, and is known the world over as the most deadly in existence, worked Wally's downfall!

The partaking of narcotics for the relief of nerve strain is dangerous. In most cases it is unnecessary, and in others the need of it could be overcome by exerting a little will power.

None can say that Sarah Bernhardt did not have a rocky path to tread. None can say that in the seventy-nine years of her life temptations did not present themselves to her. Did she accept them? Her long life and splendid health would seem to refute any charge in this direction.

Wally Reid's death from the use of narcotics is a lesson that should be studied by every person in the land. And advantage should be taken of that lesson.

And one of the advantages which can be taken of that lesson is the education of the growing generation toward clean living. The message of Wallace Reid's death is to the mothers and fathers of the children of the land. The way is pointed out clearly as to how this terrible scourge can be eradicated—by education.

Reliance must be placed upon educational methods, and one of the best methods of educating the youth of today against participation in this dread habit is through the motion picture. A picture may not cure any who is at present an addict, but it can be so constructed that it will serve as a warning that may save millions from the temptations of the traffic.

Laws will not prevent the user of drugs from obtaining them once the habit is formed, and, although laws are preventive in a small degree, there can be no better method of eradicating the dope habit than that of education.

RELATIVE SPEED

Some automobile owners who have been arrested on charges of driving at rates varying from 25 to 35 miles an hour have complained that such rates are not speeding, and that the attention of officers of the law should be directed at men who operate motor cars at speeds of 40 miles or greater.

This recalls that speed is a matter of opinions as well as law. There was a time when public indignation ran high against any man who drove a horse through the streets at what was considered an excessive rate of speed. Occasionally some horse owner was arrested. There were laws against horse racing on the public highways or streets. In those days the owner of a horse that could trot a mile on a public highway in three minutes was proud of the animal and boasted of its superior speed. And yet when a horse went a mile in three minutes it was only traveling at the rate of 20 miles an hour. There were no two-minute race horses then and few of them now, yet a two-minute horse means only 30 miles an hour. Since automobiles became common there are boasts of 60 or 70 miles an hour on the road, and when there is no officer in sight, of 40 miles or more in city or town. Frequent accidents, and many of them accompanied by death, seem to have no effect on speeding. So about all the walking public can do is to sit back and calmly wait for someone to come along with a cure for speeding that will prove more effective than anything that has been devised up to this time.

THE RURAL CHURCH

Professor Burr, of the Kansas Agricultural College, is pessimistic about the future of the small church in rural communities. He fears that what the auto has begun the radio will complete, and points out that within the last five years 200 rural church organizations have been abandoned in Kansas.

The automobile has taken the worshippers away from the neighborhood church and carried them to the more pretentious churches of the neighboring cities, he says. Now that the radio has made it possible to sit comfortably at home and hear some of the best sermons being preached, he fears that more people will be won away from the little institutions which have been such a big factor in keeping American standards of life so high, for both the inconvenience of travel and the necessity of contributing something for the upkeep of the church are avoided.

"LET THE PEOPLE RULE"

The "progressives" gave California the initiative, the referendum, the recall, and the direct primary on the theory that the people were better able to manage their own affairs than any group of delegates chosen to legislatures or conventions on the representative theory. They told us that they had restored the state government to the people and had set the people free. But now comes Chester Rowell with this amazing but doubtless correct statement of facts:

"The law making it possible for each governor to determine most of the membership of this commission during the term of his successor was so written for that express purpose, and with the announced intention that it be so used. When the law was before the people for their approval, Governor Johnson frankly and fully explained this feature of it. He said, not in one speech, but many: 'The time will come, whether in a few years or many years, that the people will elect a governor whose politics and affiliations will be the reverse of those of his predecessor. This bill has been purposely so drawn that, if that happens, it will have to happen twice in succession before it can affect the continuity and personnel of the railroad commission. If you don't want that done, don't vote for this bill.' Thus, not inadvertently, but on full warning, the people did vote that exactly this policy should be carried out.

"Moreover, the law was purposely so drawn as to render the commission independent, not only of the governor, but even of the people. The members are not subject to recall, and the governor cannot remove them, even for cause. Only the legislature, by a two-thirds vote, could remove one of them."

A little reflection on the above quotation will show that the politicians who, masked as "progressives," were building up a political machine cunningly designed to perpetuate their power over the railroad commission beyond the term of their mandate from the people.

To them "Vox populi, vox Dei" was a good maxim, provided, of course, that the "progressive" politicians concurred. That is their attitude at all times. The initiative and the referendum is hailed by them as the perfect scheme for enabling a free people to express its will, but if the plebiscite goes against them these zealots for complete democracy wail aloud that the infallible electorate has been misled.

And when the people vote to throw these "progressive" politicians into oblivion their leaders "point with pride" to the fact that, in order to protect the people against the folly of the majority the "progressive" politicians have so framed the laws that the cast-offs can dominate the most important of all the commissions for a long term of years.

The builders of the political machine that was scrapped by the people in November have taken out of the word "progressive" any meaning that it ever had. And, naturally, the gutter-snipes of politics are trying to cover themselves with the tattered remnants of a once honored party name.

TWELFTH YEAR MISSION PLAY STARTS FEB. 3

John Steven McGroarty, author, announces that the twelfth year of his world-famed Mission Play at San Gabriel will begin there on the afternoon of February 3, next. The matinee will commence at 2:15 o'clock.

The author anticipates the coming season with an unusual degree of satisfaction. Besides a large number of players who have been with him ever since the Mission Play had its inception, he has this year made some very notable additions to his cast. Foremost among the new faces will be the noted romantic actor, Monroe Salisbury, who will essay the leading role of the play, the renowned Pray Junipero Serra. Mr. Salisbury will be the seventh great actor to play this role. It was first played by Benjamin Horning for two seasons. Horning was followed by George Oshourne, then came W. R. Ford, then Tyrone Power, then Norval MacGregor, and next for four years following came Frederick Ward.

All these men were great in the part," said Mr. McGroarty to a press representative the other day. "And just as one was greater in some ways than his predecessors, so did I feel now that Mr. Salisbury will be a revelation to those who have seen any of those who have gone before him. To begin with, he looks the part. Father Junipero Serra was six feet tall, just the same height that Salisbury is. But more than anything else Mr. Salisbury has what I would call the Californian temperament. Those who saw him play Alessandro in the immortal story of Romona will instinctively feel that he will make a great Junipero. He has had a wonderful training and experience, having been leading man for Mrs. Fiske and Richard Mansfield, two of the greatest dramatic artists who ever trod the English speaking stage. He has a wonderful voice and a most captivating personality."

Harry Lonsdale, so long the leading man for E. S. Willard and Nat Goodwin, also comes to the play this year. And to the great corps of revealed singers has been added Helene Peabody and Wilbur Herwig. Julia Ruiz, the marvelous Spanish dancer of Barcelona, returns to the coast as does also Juanita Vignere, Juan Zarraginos and others of the beloved dancers of the play. The prospects are very bright for this season of the Mission Play to be the most auspicious in its history.

ATTENTION IOWANS

Hundreds of letters and calls are coming in even this early asking about the mammoth annual picnic reunion for 1923. It is too early to give all the details but it will be held in Lincoln Park, Los Angeles, on day, Thursday, February 22, or if rainy that date then Saturday, March 3. Every Hawkeye, resident or visiting, is always welcome. Three great Iowans have been invited to speak to us that day. Hon. Herbert Hoover, of the president's cabinet, U. S. Senator Smith Broomhart and Secretary of Agriculture Wallace. We confidently hope to have one or more of these leaders. Arrange to be on hand and pass the word to every Hawkeye. Write, telephone (10951) or call on Secretary C. H. Parsons, Col. A. B. Shaw, president of the Iowa association of Southern California, will preside and is in charge.

Some wives never will believe they have equal suffrage until they are allowed to mark their husband's ballots for them.

The nice thing about belonging to our sex is we don't have to kiss somebody who needs a shave.

THE CHILDREN'S CORNER (Mrs. N. K. Wood)

My dear Hazel: I promised to write you a letter a long time ago; and although I have been tardy, I have never forgotten you for a minute, because the dear little "Children's Corner" is well fortified in my heart. Flowers bloom there and vines trail over the parapet and evergreen trees bend their boughs overhead and reach down as if protecting this sacred to memory "Children's Corner" in the realm of the "Torrance Herald." So you see I have not forgotten. I must tell you a funny little incident that occurred in the life of a little girl whom I knew quite well.

Her parents lived on a farm several miles from town and often Lucile was left to amuse herself with her big dog Rover or her maltese cat or with her dolls and books. Once her mother was called away for a few hours and as the time began to grow heavy on her hands she was looking at much longer than clock struck three and it occurred to her that now would be a good time to make the clock strike as long as she pleased to have it and there was no one to interfere. She climbed up into a high chair, opened the clock door carefully, pushed up a wire that hung invitingly down and it caught. The music began. She was delighted and carefully closed the clock, jumped down and seated herself with her cat to listen. My! how long it does strike. She listened and watched until the pleasure began to turn to fright. What if mother comes and finds me out—for she knew she was disobeying orders, never to touch the clock. But then I wanted so much to hear it strike longer. She went to the door and then to the gate, and back to the room where the clock kept up its busy clanging noise. O, stop! she cried; but the clock moved on unheeding her pitiful tears. O, Rover! what shall I do? At last she spied her mother's white bonnet through the shadowing trees, and she ran to meet her, but she could not confess up. So she tried to appear very glad to see her though her troubled, tear-stained face made mother suspicious something was wrong.

They went into the house and lo, the clock was quiet. Nothing was noticed until the mother glanced at the clock to see how the time was going, and she said: "Well, if Josiah didn't forget to wind the clock. This is the first Monday morning he's ever forgot. Well, I'll leave it alone till he comes." When he came his first exclamation was "Why, the clock's stopped!" "You didn't wind it this morning," "I did," he promptly replied. "You didn't," mother said. "I can prove it." So the clock was opened and sure enough it had run down. Then Lucile had to own up for fear of a family jar. But after being disciplined and told never to touch the clock again, she said, "I won't," and she kept her word, for the striking of an eight-day clock had satisfied her curiosity.

We don't believe the Creator ever made a failure. But if He did it was in trying to make a man who could please all of his neighbors.

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INDUSTRIAL EXPOSITION, LONG BEACH

Typifying the great southwest's extraordinary development in industry and commerce, the Annual Harbor Industrial Exposition of Southern California will be held at Long Beach, March 12 to 17, under the auspices of the Long Beach chamber of commerce, Harbor Industrial Exposition Association and Long Beach Manufacturers' association. It will be the third event of the kind and will greatly exceed its two predecessors in the number and variety of exhibits, and in entertainment features.

Hundreds of industrial concerns in San Pedro, Wilmington and Long Beach will take part in the exhibit of manufactured products, which will be a revelation to all who are not familiar with the phenomenal growth achieved by the harbor district in the past few years. With its exposition, the Southland proposes to tell the world that it is on the map of industry and trade.

The harbor district's significance as the gateway through which the southwestern part of the United States pours forth its products, and through which it receives in return commodities needed by it from all quarters of the globe, will be visualized. Visitors to the exposition will see the proof that the port has called into being a manufacturing region of the first consequence. The display will be a far demonstration that there is scarcely a commodity known to commerce which is not made in Southern California factories.

The exposition will be held in the municipal auditorium at Long Beach. Exhibits will occupy the entire main floor of the building, which is one of the largest of the kind in California. The galleries will be open to visitors, while the stage will be used for entertainments throughout the exposition.

Directors of the Exposition association are A. B. Clark, president; Edwin E. Elston, vice president; Charles S. Henderson, managing director; C. E. Gordon, treasurer; Alexander B. Stewart, M. O. C. Hull, Spencer Kenney, G. F. Townsend, Frank H. Cannon, J. K. Reid, William Stephens, V. R. G. Wilber, City Manager Charles H. Windham, members of the city council and all civic bodies of Long Beach are assisting the committee in charge with the preparations. Arrangements will be made for special transportation rates to the exposition city over all railroads and steamship lines. Particular attention is being given to hotel accommodations for the thousands of outsiders expected to attend the exposition.

Ambitious plans are contemplated by the exposition organization to make the annual exhibition of the harbor district's industrial resources an event comparable with the Tournament of Roses at Pasadena on New Year's day and with the orange show at San Bernardino. The intention is to develop it into much more than a display of factory products. Consideration is being given a suggestion that a pageant telling in allegory the wonderful story of Southern California's harbor be staged each year simultaneously with the exposition.

NORTH DAKOTANS REUNION

All who ever lived in North Dakota are invited to meet for the great picnic reunion, all day, Saturday, February 3, 1923, in Sycamore Grove Park, Los Angeles. There will be a brief program opening about two o'clock, but the main purpose will be to have a good time. Bring your baskets well filled and share with friends. Each one who learns of this picnic is asked to pass the word along.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. R. Helton, at 20711 Cota avenue, a ten-pound boy, January 20, 1923. Mother and baby are getting along fine. Mr. Helton is employed as a mechanic at the Pacific Electric.

Cheer up—only a few weeks more until somebody will be telling us the fruit crop is killed. Very few men can work while in love—until they get married and have to.

TURN HAIR DARK WITH SAGE TEA

If Mixed with Sulphur It Darkens So Naturally Nobody Can Tell

The old-time mixture of Sage Tea and Sulphur for darkening gray, streaked and faded hair is grandmother's recipe, and folks are again using it to keep their hair a good, even color, which is quite sensible, as we are living in an age when a youthful appearance is of the greatest advantage. Nowadays, though, we don't have the troublesome task of gathering the sage and the mossy mixing at home. All drug stores sell the ready-to-use product, improved by the addition of other ingredients, called "Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Compound." It is very popular because nobody can discover it has been applied. Simply moisten your comb or a soft brush with it and draw this through your hair, taking one small strand at a time; by morning the gray hair disappears, but what delights the ladies with Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Compound, is that, besides beautifully darkening the hair after a few applications, it also produces that soft lustrous appearance of abundance which is so attractive.

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